

STATE INTERAGENCY COUNCIL (SIAC)

July Meeting Summary



Date | time July 15, 2020 | 10:00 a.m. | **Meeting Location** virtually via Zoom

Meeting called to order by Marta Miranda-Straub, Commissioner of Department for Community Based Services & SIAC Chair

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & UPDATES

Marta Miranda-Straub, Commissioner, Department for Community Based Services (DCBS) & SIAC Chair, welcomed members/alternates to the meeting.

BUSINESS ITEMS

- **Review of June Meeting Summary**
Rachel Bingham made motion to approve. **Judy Theriot** – second to the motion. Motion carried.
- **Annual Recommendations to the Governor and Legislative Research Commission**
Marta Miranda-Straub, SIAC Chair, informed the Council that it is time to work on the annual recommendations to Governor and Legislative Research Commission (LRC), per KRS. Chair Miranda-Straub stated that per SIAC policy, we need the recommendations approved by SIAC in August. Chair Miranda-Straub requested members submit ideas to Lea Taylor via email.
- **SIAC Strategic Planning**
Marta Miranda-Straub, SIAC Chair, informed the Council of two strategic planning sessions, facilitated by ECU Training Resource Center, scheduled for August 20 and August 26. Both will be held virtually 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. EST. SIAC Chair instructed members/alternates to watch email for the links.
- **Lake Cumberland RIAC Parent Application**
Marta Miranda-Straub, SIAC Chair, requested the Council review the application that was emailed from Lea. The SIAC Chair reported that the RIAC voted unanimously to accept the application. Lea Taylor, SIAC Administrator, reported that another parent application, from Bluegrass South RIAC, had also been submitted and emailed to SIAC Members. SIAC Chair asked if there were any objections, and there were none, so the SIAC Chair appointed the Parent Representatives for Lake Cumberland RIAC and Bluegrass South RIAC.
- **SIAC Family Organization Representative, Parent and Youth Representatives**
Marta Miranda-Straub, SIAC Chair, informed the Council that the family organization representative, parent representative, parent alternate and youth representative have completed their two year terms; therefore, the Council must vote on whether to reappoint or select other nominees. Lea Taylor, SIAC Administrator, stated that because we are meeting virtually and cannot do paper ballots, a separate Zoom link has been set up for voting members/designees (one per agency). Ms. Taylor explained that members will leave this meeting, enter the other closed session Zoom meeting to vote, then return to the SIAC Meeting link.
Melissa Goins made a motion to go into closed session. **Ivanora Alexander** – second to the motion. Motion carried.

RETURN FROM CLOSED SESSION

Marta Miranda-Straub, SIAC Chair, called the meeting to order and asked the SIAC Administrator for the outcome of the voting. Ms. Taylor stated the Council voted to reappoint KY-SPIN as the Family Organization Representative; reappoint Denitta Mercier as the Parent Representative; reappoint Sonny Mercier as the Parent Alternate; and reappoint Callie Cartmell as the Youth Representative.

REGIONAL INTERAGENCY COUNCIL (RIAC) UPDATES

Vanessa Brewer, RIAC Administrator, reported the RIACs continue to do great work to support their communities by addressing local needs during the pandemic. Ms. Brewer reported that Big Sandy RIAC is continuing to work on their second suicide awareness announcement and will share it with SIAC once complete. Ms. Brewer reported that Barren River RIAC, in collaboration with the Green River Regional Educational Cooperative, hosted their first virtual Promoting Positive Mental Health in Schools Conference with Dr. Richard Vanaker, from the University of Illinois, in Chicago. Ms. Brewer reported three RIAC Youth Representatives are assisting Kentucky Partnership for Families and Children (KPFC) in creating a video that to support RIACs with finding, supporting, and retaining youth representatives on their councils. Ms. Brewer also reported that over the past few months, she and the SIAC Administrator have been providing support and technical assistance virtually to new RIAC leaders. [see *Meeting Handouts* for monthly RIAC report]

STANDING COMMITTEE UPDATES

Damien Sweeney, Chair of Social & Emotional Health & Well-being (SEHWB) Standing Committee, reported their standing committee has focused on five recommendations from the Social & Emotional Health Task Force, and how they can implement them. Dr. Sweeney reported their committee is working on 3-5 indicators of social emotional learning, social emotional health and wellbeing, while also thinking about implementation data and finding ways to get organizations to help with county data.

Edward L. Palmer, Sr., Chair of the Racial & Ethnic Disparities (RED) Standing Committee, reported they are currently working a one page flyer to connect providers to racial and ethnic disparities work. The RED Standing Committee also plans to collaborate with the Social and Emotional Health and Well-being Standing Committee. Several years ago Melissa Goins was a part of a committee that worked on an “Under 10” statement around social and emotional needs. RED and SEHWB will work together to revisit that statement, update it with current data and research, and submit it again. Pastor Palmer reviewed his committee’s legislative recommendations as well as provided a recap of the panel they hosted last week, which received positive feedback. RED plans to host another panel mid to late August featuring the Secretary of Justice Cabinet, Secretary of the Labor Cabinet, and the Lt. Governor. RED continues to seek data from the SIAC agencies.

Rhonda Logsdon, Chair of the Disabilities Standing Committee, reported their standing committee is also seeking information about data collected by SIAC agencies as it relates to disabilities. Ms. Logsdon wants data to drive the actions of the standing committee.

CONSIDERING SOCIAL ECOLOGICAL MODEL AS A PLANNING TOOL

Marta Miranda-Straub, SIAC Chair, Commissioner of Department for Community Based Services, introduced the Social Ecological Model (SEM), a model used in public health, by the CDC, and in prevention, as a potential model for SIAC to consider for strategic planning. The SIAC Chair reported Kentucky has used the model for the Green Dot program, and it is currently the model being used to address the racial gap in both housing and income. The SIAC Chair discussed how SEM considers the individual, the family, and the community. The SIAC Chair inquired if the Council would be willing to receive training on SEM and use it for strategic planning in August. The Council expressed interest in learning more about SEM.

SIAC MEMBER UPDATES

Elizabeth Caywood, Department for Community Based Services (DCBS), provided an update for DCBS and reported on July 1, Marta Miranda-Straub began as DCBS Commissioner. Ms. Caywood reported DCBS filed an emergency regulation regarding childcare in response to litigation, and the hearing will be tomorrow. Ms. Caywood reported the litigation was mainly in regards to the limitation on classroom sizes and mingling of classrooms. Ms. Caywood reported they anticipate filing new regulations in response to the litigation. Ms. Caywood reported DCBS is opening visitation for all children in out of home care. Ms. Caywood reported the out of home numbers are trending downward. Ms. Caywood reported the application deadline for Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT), a program which provides assistance to households with children eligible for free or reduced-price school meals, has been extended through the end of August.

[More information is available at <https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dcb/pebtfaq.pdf> and <https://education.ky.gov/federal/SCN/Pages/P-EBT-Information.aspx>].

Damien Sweeney, Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), reported KDE is focusing on school reentry and has released guidance documents [see <https://education.ky.gov/comm/Pages/COVID-19-Reopening-Resources.aspx>]. Dr. Sweeney reported KDE continues to host weekly superintendent calls, and they continue to use their Student Advisory Panels for feedback and planning. Dr. Sweeney reported KDE is also seeking feedback from parents, counselors, and teachers.

Rachel Bingham, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), reported that in Family and Juvenile Services within AOC they have been pushing to eliminate racial and ethnic disparities. Ms. Bingham reported they have taken some time to give staff increased support, particularly in the urban communities that are experiencing ongoing protests. Ms. Bingham reported they are working on an agency model around racial and ethnic disparities, and the publication will be ready in a couple weeks. Ms. Bingham reported AOC is also working on dependency, neglect, and abuse legal trainings for attorneys and guardians ad litem across the state under the leadership of Supreme Court Justice Debra Lambert for the curriculum. Ms. Bingham requested that any questions or concerns regarding FAIR Teams be directed to her [RachelB@kycourts.net].

Wendy Morris, Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental & Intellectual Disabilities (DBHDID), discussed anti-racism work within the Department and Cabinet. Ms. Morris stated the Cabinet and our department are making a very sincere attempt to make history, not just watch history repeat itself. Ms. Morris introduced DBHDID's Anti-Racism Commitments [see *Meeting Handouts*] and discussed each commitment. Ms. Morris encouraged SIAC to use it, make changes as necessary, and have conversations about anti-racism.

Kristen Martin, Department for Public Health (DPH), Kristen reported they are working diligently in Floyd County to track down their HEART (Healing, Empowering, and Recovering, Together) Program participants, and they continue to realize the barrier in getting participants online. Ms. Martin reported they have relied on partnerships with ARC (Addiction Recovery Center) in that area. Ms. Martin reported the DPH training department is moving towards online training.

William Heffron, Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), reported currently DJJ is not allowing anyone into facilities for visits due to the virus. DJJ is using Zoom as much as possible. Dr. Heffron encouraged the Council and audience to stay in state and avoid crowded areas. Dr. Heffron reported DJJ had to close one facility for two weeks because people were exposed to one person who had traveled out of state and contracted the virus.

Judy Theriot, Department for Medicaid Services (DMS), reported that since March, over 180,000 new members have joined, so now Medicaid has over 1.5 million people receiving benefits, which is a new record in Kentucky. Dr. Theriot reported she has been working with Dr. White in DPH, and she stated August is Immunization Month. Dr. Theriot reported concern there has been a large decrease in immunizations because people have stopped going to the doctor the last couple of months. Dr. Theriot reported DMS and DPH are working together to get the message out about the importance of immunizations.

Ivanora Alexander, Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs (OCSHCN), reported they are continuing to telecommute, and OCSHCN is still providing telehealth services for children with autism. These services include autism services, neurology services, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and some First Step services. Ms. Alexander said in the last meeting she had reported audiology services were being offered curbside; they have now opened audiology services in-person at two locations to pilot the safe return with working with patients in offices. Ms. Alexander reported that if the pilots go well, they will look at opening other clinics to in-person services.

Denitta Mercier, Parent Representative, reported the Barren River Region is hosting a parent retreat on July 25, and they have 13 rooms available for parents. Ms. Mercier reported the joint (parent and youth) meeting is scheduled for August 1; that event will be virtual, and more information will be available soon. Ms. Mercier reported she has not heard from any of the RIAC Parent Reps, so she requested assistance from the Local Resource Coordinators to request their parent and youth representatives to contact her and Callie, SIAC Youth Representative.

Melissa Goins, Family Resource & Youth Services Centers (FRYSC), reported a focus right now is school re-entry. Ms. Goins reported FRYSC is currently hosting their annual Victory Over Violence conference, which is virtual for the first time. Ms. Goins reported the conference this year addresses burnout, secondary trauma, and stress from a work situation that is constantly changing. Ms. Goins reported they are trying to plan for the next year, but that is difficult with all the unknowns. Ms. Goins reported FRYSC is also looking at anti-racism work and making decisions about how to proceed.

Rob Ellis, Kentucky Housing Corporation (KHC), reported KHC opened the waiting list and began accepting applications June 1, and application acceptance remains open. Mr. Ellis reported KHC plans to have 10,000 on the waiting list before it closes, which will probably be in early fall. Mr. Ellis reported KHC was also a recipient of CARES Act funds. Mr. Ellis reported KHC is beginning to receive numerous calls from people that are being threatened with eviction, as the moratorium is closing at the end of the month. Mr. Ellis reported the 16 million will be spent very quickly, assisting people with back payments.

Cora McNabb, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), reported that this OVR's 100th year providing services. They are working to change their celebration to an online event to boost staff morale. Ms. McNabb reported OVR continues to telecommute as well as find ways for clients to access services online. Ms. McNabb reported she has been asked to serve on a national Vocational Rehabilitation public forum on Racism, Equity, and Inclusion. Ms. McNabb reported the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet will be issuing a public notice regarding a public hearing for the Client Assistance Program, which is the program that handles consumer complaints or issues regarding vocational rehabilitation, to potentially move from the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet to Protection and Advocacy.

Missy Brownson Ross, Council on Post-secondary Education (CPE), discussed how GEAR-UP is going to look different this year as they will not be providing face-to-face service delivery. Ms. Brownson Ross reported they are currently in the process of translating their materials and programs into online/virtual programs.

Rhonda Logsdon, KY-SPIN, Family Organization Representative, reported KY-SPIN is continuing to provide webinars and maintain social media presence for families. Ms. Logsdon provided an example of a system-level barrier for families in the Special Needs Adoption Program. Ms. Logsdon reported families are reporting that they annually update their records with DCBS; however, these updates are not automatically communicated to the Medicaid and other systems, which creates issues when trying to receive other resources. Council members requested Ms. Logsdon send an email synopsis to DCBS and DMS for them to look for solutions.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Marta Miranda-Straub, SIAC Chair, requested ideas for future agenda items to be emailed to Lea.Taylor@ky.gov.

- SIAC Strategic Planning – ECU Training Resource Center – August
- Big Sandy RIAC: Suicide Prevention Efforts – PSA - September
- Race Child Community Welfare – Lynette Ponder, DCBS – September
- Barren River RIAC: Update on COVID-19 Funding Impact on the Region – Anne Embry, LRC – October

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marta Miranda-Straub, SIAC Chair, asked for any public comment.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, August 20 and 26, 2020 | 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Strategic Planning | Location: Zoom

ADJOURNMENT

Rachel Bingham made motion to adjourn. **Cora McNabb** – second to the motion.

Marta Miranda-Straub, SIAC Chair, adjourned the meeting.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Met prior to SIAC.

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

TASK:	RESPONSIBLE PARTY:
Annual Recommendations to the Governor and Legislative Research Commission (LRC)	Members/Designees as well as Standing Committees – email recommendations to Lea.Taylor@ky.gov

IN ATTENDANCE

Members/Designees:

Marta Miranda-Straub, DCBS
Rachel Bingham, AOC
Denitta Mercier, Parent Representative
Callie Cartmell, Youth Representative
Wendy Morris, DBHDID
Judy Theriot, DMS
William Heffron, DJJ
Kristen Martin, DPH

Rhonda Logsdon, KY-SPIN
Ivy Alexander, OCSHCN
Cora McNabb, OVR
Melissa Goins, FRYSC
Damien Sweeney, KDE
Rob Ellis, KHC
Missy Brownson Ross, CPE

Staff: Lea Taylor, SIAC Administrator, DBHDID; Lori Ramage, Administrative Specialist, DBHDID; Vanessa Brewer, RIAC Administrator, DBHDID

Partial Guest List:

Anne Embry, LifeSkills	Janice Johnston, DBHDID	Angela Morris, AOC
Christie Penn, DBHDID	Miriam Silman, DBHDID	Whitney Hayse, P&A
Shirley Gardstein, Cumberland River RIAC		Eliza Monholland, New Vista
Kathy Mason, Bluegrass RIAC	Kathryn Tillett, KDE	Kate Tilton, KPFC
Laura Edwards, DBHDID	Beth Jordan, DBHDID	Clay Barber, DBHDID
Brittany Barber, DBHDID	David Hanna	Joy Varney, DBHDID
Kellie Smith, KY-SPIN	Liz McKune	Jesse Dillow, TAYLRD
Stephanie Sikes-Jones, DBHDID	Emily Keely, DPH	Lynette Ponder, DCBS
Allison Galvagni, Aetna	Will McCoy, Big Sandy RIAC	Amber Collins, AOC
Connie Lee, Buffalo Trace RIAC	Dominique Clark, AOC	Phyllis Millspaugh, DBHDID
Eboni Blackford, AOC	Edward Palmer	Maggie Schroeder, DBHDID
Lindy Montgomery, DCBS	Jessica Beal	Shellie Mills, CRCC
Stephanie Hamilton	Stephanie Bates, DMS	Shelley King, Four Rivers RIAC
Stephanie Stone	Tony Dillow, Gateway/FIVCO RIAC	Veronica Sullivan, KDE
Sharon Kiser, DCBS	Brittany Roberts, KPFC	Eric Brown
Ursula Mullins, CHFS	Tamarsha Beckem	Connie White, DPH
Dee Dee Ward, DBHDID	David Crowley	Sonny Mercier, Parent Alternate
Steve Shannon, KARP	Aaron Dowdell	Bill Buchanan, KDE
Margaret McGladrey, KCN	Christina Weeter, KDE	LeAnn Magre, Wellcare
Heather Dearing	Whitney Allen	Susan Robinson, Northern KY RIAC
S. Mulder, CHFS	Kate Overberg Wagoner, DBHDID	Enid Wohlstein
Vestena Robbins, DBHDID	Randa Bush, New Vista	Natasha Sanford, LakeCumberland RIAC
Heidi Cooley-Cook, KATC	Dyzz Cooper, KPFC	Leslie Hoffman, DMS
Andy Fisher	Michelle Kilgore, DBHDID	Laura Beard, Pritchard Committee
Allen Brenzel, DBHDID	Elizabeth Caywood, DCBS	Anne Embry, Barren River RIAC
Lisa Anglin	Rebecca Monhollen	

MEETING HANDOUTS

Any handouts referenced in the meeting summary above will be available on the SIAC website at <http://dbhdid.ky.gov/dbh/siac-summaries.aspx>. Under **Handouts**, use the drop down to select this meeting date.